

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 17 and 18 have been amended herein. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application, in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Specification Objections

The abstract of the disclosure has been has been objected to for allegedly “being too general and not directed to the entire disclosure.” (See, Office Action, page 2, ¶5). Applicant has herein amended the abstract of the disclosure to further clarify aspects of the invention. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the objection to the specification have been overcome.

Claim Objection

Claim 18 has been objected to as “being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim,” whereas claim 19 has been objected to based on being dependent from objected claim 18. (See, Office Action page 2, ¶7-page 3, ¶1). Applicant has amended dependent claims 17 and 18 to remedy the dependent form issue. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the amendments overcome the objection to claim 18 and render the objection of claim 19 moot.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5 and 7-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as allegedly being anticipated by Windows Media Player v. 7.00 (“wmp7”). Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the pending claims are patentably distinct from wmp7.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,:

A method for specifying media to be rendered at appliances...comprising:
 identifying appliances available to render media;
 identifying media sources;
 receiving a definition of a plurality of activities, each activity specifying an appliance and a media source;
 displaying an indication of activities;
 receiving selection of an activity;
 indicating that media associated with the media source of the selected activity is to be rendered on the appliance of the selected activity; and
 displaying a media bar for controlling the rendering of the media on the appliance of the selected activity.

Applicant respectfully submits that wmp7 does not teach, disclose or suggest the elements of the claimed invention. More specifically, Applicant submits that wmp7 does not anticipate at least “identifying appliances available to render media” or “receiving a definition of a plurality of activities, each activity specifying an appliance and a media source” as recited in independent claim 1.

In contrast to the elements recited in independent claim 1, wmp7 does not disclose “appliances” as recited in independent claim 1 and as one of ordinary skill in the art would understand the term in light of the specification (See, specification, ¶ [0024-0025]). Generally, wmp7 is installed on a computer (installation computer) and facilitates media playback on a single component, the installation computer itself. However, the claimed invention may control multiple “activities” defined for a plurality of “appliances” without requiring installation on the various appliances configured to render the media.

By way of example only, please refer to Fig 7 and the corresponding discussion on page 8 in the specification. In this example, “Figure 7 is a diagram illustrating the user interface when multiple activities have been activated [on multiple appliances]....” (See,

specification, page 8, ¶ [0034]). For the purposes of this example, the “TV” and the “Tablet” are exemplary “appliances” whereas, “viewing photos” and “viewing email” are exemplary “activities” defined for the respective “appliances” as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, in light of the foregoing discussion, Applicant submits that wmp7’s rendering music solely on the installation computer does not anticipate the claimed method for controlling “activities” defined for “appliances,” as recited in independent claim 1.

Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from the cited reference for at least this reason. Further, Applicant submits that claims 2-5 and 7-10, which are directly or indirectly dependent from independent claim 1, are also patentably distinct from the cited reference for at least a similar reason. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this ground of rejections.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Windows Media Player v. 7.00 (“wmp7”). Claims 11-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over wmp7, in view of EP 0 883 320 A2 to Hatakeyama (“Hatakeyama”). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6 and 11-24 are patentably distinct from the cited references taken either alone or in combination.

Independent claim 11 recites, *inter alia*: “A method...for providing a media bar for controlling rendering different types of media onto appliances, the method comprising: identifying media for rendering on an appliance....” As discussed above, Applicant submits that wmp7 does not disclose, teach or suggest “appliances” as recited in independent claim 1. For at least similar reasons, Applicant submits that the term “appliance” and “controlling rendering [of]

different types of media onto appliances...” as recited in independent claim 11 and in light of the specification are patentably distinct from wmp7 rendering media on the installation computer. Furthermore, Applicant submits that the Hatakeyama reference does not remedy the deficiencies identified in wmp7.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 11 is patentably distinct from the cited references, taken either alone or in combination, for at least these reasons. Further, Applicant submits claim 6 (indirectly dependent on independent claim 1) and claims 12-25 (directly or indirectly dependent on independent claim 11) are also patentably distinct from the cited references, taken either alone or in combination for at least similar reasons. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of these grounds of rejections.

CONCLUSION

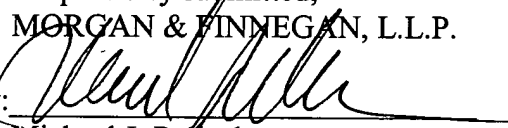
It is now believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. In view of these remarks, an early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary for the submission of this Amendment and Response, however, should any fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees which may be required for this Amendment and Response, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3802-4059. A
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